

Upton Cottage Clevedon

Jan^y 1st 1884.

Dearest Mr Chapman,

You must accept our warmest congratulations & offer them to dear Jessie with our best wishes for her happiness in the bright prospect opening before her. You know how closely we are bound in love & sympathy to you & yours, & how we must ever rejoice in your joy & sorrow in your sorrow, so you will need no lengthened or formal assurance of our participation in your emotions on the present all-absorbing occasion. We heard many weeks ago of Jessie's engagement; the tidings were conveyed to us by Mr Jones, who had obtained them from Mr Gaskell, who was just returned to Manchester from Paris. It was one of those rumors, however, which we knew would be confirmed by yourself in proper season.

if there was a solid foundation for it,
which if unfounded it would only
have teased you to be told about, so
I made no allusion to the report in
my late letters to you. It would
however be far too late to attempt
to limit the circle thro' which the
intelligence shall spread, it has
been abroad so long that it must
run its course. We are rejoiced to
hear the improved accounts from Pa^r I.
I trust your party will not be re-united, or
then there will be no need of avoiding
allusion to the delicate topic of Misses
engagement. Miss Weston wrote me
the kindest most affectionate of
letters soon after she reached Pa^r, & yo^r
unto this day it remains unanswered,
tho' night & day my responsive thoughts
are with her. It is one of 26 needing "Br."
to be written; but I have for the last

three months been obliged to act in the
most recklessly way towards my
correspondents, & only attempt to
catch at a few of the most pressing.
My Father's enforced inactivity compels
me to spend a great deal of time in
helping him to do nothing; it never
answers to even fully occupied. If
he had any other companion so that
I could work a few hours consecutively,
our suspended communion would be
renewed with many an absent friend.
They are all (that is those worth having)
most indulgent to me in my silence;
none more considerately so than
you by yours dearest Mrs Chapman.

The parcel was sent, & as I under-
stood left at Mauritius by Mr Spark.
It contained a few copies of my Father's
"Brief Notice" inscribed to differently
friends, & two or three other pamphlets
I forgot whether there was any letter

but think not. I have not seen Mr
Spark since receiving your letter
to make minute enquiries as to
what he did with the parcel, but
he has never failed heretofore.
It is a great happiness to us ^{that} to be able to
see Mr Pillsbury ^{should} go to Paris sadly as we shall miss
his presence here. To see him roam
over hill & dale, exploring ruins, &
walling in his liberty & daily in-
creasing strength, is most exhilar-
ating; I trust he will be able to stay
in this country long enough to re-
mind ^{of} body & save the exposure
& fatigue of ^{annual} next winter's campaign.
Do put in a word in favor of his
continuance here when you write
to Boston; he naturally feels con-
siderable hesitation in expressing a wish on
the subject, but he evidently does so
there will be no impatience for his return
till he has seen the people of places

in our land which have special
 associations & attractions. I can
 think of nothing that would be
 so helpful to us antislaverywise,
 as his meeting with the friends of
 the cause in private, even if his
 health should forbid his speaking
 in public. Mr Grapier wants to
 see & know him, Mr Reid invites
 him & Mr Grant, & others in London,
 & the Leeds people are longing for
 him. So they are in Edinburgh &
 Dublin & Glasgow, & he is wanted
 again at Bridgewater; Miss Martin
 urges him to spend some time
 at Ambleside. She knows he will
 always be most acceptable in Bristol,
 & --- there is no end to the places
 where he could do good service at

no expense or fatigues to himself.
I hope you will get him to your
evening gatherings that he may
see you & the social circles that
assemble around you; & that he
will not avail himself of Mr. Howes's
un-social tastes to escape coming
into the world, now he has "got
the chance" as he calls it. It will
be a pity if he can indulge his
inherent reserve & shrinking from
observation in Paris where he ^{ought} would
soort to see all that is to be seen of
the new phases of character & life
that it has to present. He has seen
but little of our national characteristics
as yet but the way is paved for his
future study. He has established
a warm friendship with Mr. Steinheil
which I was sure would be brought

about as soon as ever they met.
Mr. S. wants to become personally
acquainted with all the Abolitionists
^{wished} to come here to see Mr. Hovey
but there was not time to sum-
mon him. If you can think of
it will you remind Mr. Hovey to
inform me of his address in London
he will be there at a season when
many of your mutual friends
will be going to Town, if they
could find him out I know they
would rejoice to greet him. When
shall we see you I wonder! What
a bright day it will be for us when
you smile upon us once more!
I want to know whether you have
seen Mr. Adlard & Mr. Taylor yet,
if so how you like them? They have
heard I presume of the death of Mr.

Armstrong's eldest son; & also that
of Rev. J. G. Robberds of Manchester.
He was a warm hearted Unitarian
minister who at the meetings in London
declared he would welcome Mr. Parker
into his pulpit more heartily
than any of his clerical brethren.
The Bishop of Liverpool is going
to be married. The rest of the news
Mr. Pillsbury must tell you ^{all}
Miss Emily Thompson, Edith F. Dr.
If this is in the event you will excuse
it for I have been writing back the same
time listening to a talk between
Mr. Avery & my Father which need
protecting that it might not grow
too animated, how the household
indeed & I am going for the last time
look in upon Mr. Pillsbury & tell him I
sleep if he has not gone of himself!! I
shall be like a fish out of water without him
with much love to you all from my Sister
Lancaster very affect yours
Mary & Eliza